



STATE OF DELAWARE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
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CANNON BUILDING
DOVER, DELAWARE 19904

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**RE: IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
TIDEWATER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.
FOR AN INCREASE IN WASTEWATER RATES
(FILED JULY 29, 2011)
PSC DOCKET NO. 11-329-WW**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT SESSIONS AND
EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS**

**TO: ALL CUSTOMERS OF TIDEWATER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.
("TESI") RECEIVING WASTEWATER SERVICE IN THE FOLLOWING DELAWARE
DEVELOPMENTS OR TOWN:**

- 1) THE RETREAT**
- 2) HARTS LANDING**
- 3) COUNTRY GROVE**
- 4) BREEDER'S CROWN**
- 5) BAY FRONT**
- 6) BAY POINTE**
- 7) THE TOWN OF MILTON**

All service areas above are located in Sussex County except No. 4 above, the Breeders Crown development, which is located in Kent County.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSIONS

A Hearing Examiner of the Delaware Public Service Commission ("the Commission") will conduct Public Comment Sessions concerning the above-captioned case (as further explained below) at the following times and locations:

CUSTOMERS IN THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENT OR TOWN RECEIVING SERVICE FROM TIDEWATER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	DATE & TIME OF PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION (chronological order)	LOCATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION
Town of Milton	November 8, 2011 (Tue) 6:00 p.m.	Milton Public Library 121 Union Street Milton, DE 19968
Breeders Crown	November 9, 2011 (Wed) 7:00 p.m.	Carlisle Fire Dept. 615 NW Front Street Milford, DE 19963
Bay Front Bay Pointe Harts Landing The Retreat Country Grove	November 16, 2011 (Wed) 7:00 p.m.	The American Legion Oak Orchard Post 28 31768 Legion Road Millsboro, DE 19966

On July 29, 2011, Tidewater Environmental Services, Inc. (hereinafter "TESI") filed with the Commission an Application seeking approval for a general increase in its rates for wastewater service representing an increase in annual operating revenues of \$798,000 or 90.6% over current revenues. Under the proposed rates, each development or town named above would experience an approximately 90.6% increase over its current quarterly wastewater rates.

On August 23, 2011, the Delaware Public Service Commission ordered that, according to its statutory right pursuant to 26 Del. C. §306(c), TESI was permitted to place temporarily rates into effect, subject to refund and under bond, so long as such temporary rates did not exceed \$2,500,000 or the lesser of 15% of TESI's annual gross intrastate operating revenues. As required by statute, this increase could take effect on or after September 28, 2011, which is sixty (60) days after TESI's Application was filed.

On September 28, 2011, TESI placed temporary rates into effect which increased these customers' rates by approximately 7.6%. These temporary rates are less than what TESI was permitted by statute, and the Commission, to charge. As required by the Commission, TESI submitted a surety bond with Middlesex Water Company as Principal for \$75,000. This amount is the amount of revenues which TESI had originally expected to collect during the seven (7) months that the amount of the temporary rates permitted by statute were in effect.

The purpose of the Public Comment Sessions is to receive statements from TESI's customers concerning their service, the proposed new rates, and other matters which are the subject of the Commission's investigation. The locations of the Public Comment Session have been selected to be as near as possible to the affected communities. Please attend the Public Comment Session for your community listed above if possible.

Anyone who plans to attend a Public Comment Session is cautioned to consult the Commission's website on the day of the

respective session for cancellation of or changes to the time, place or date of the event.

If you wish to comment on TESI's service or the proposed new rates, but are unable to attend a Public Comment Session, you may submit your comments via email or U.S. Mail no later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, December 19, 2011, addressed to the Delaware Public Service Commission, Attn: Staff Public Utility Analyst Heidi Wagner, 861 Silver Lake Blvd., Dover, DE 19904. Ms. Wagner's email address is heidi.wagner@state.de.us.

EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS

Currently, the Commission has scheduled public evidentiary hearings on TESI's Application beginning on March 20, 2012. These hearings will take place at the Commission's offices located at 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Cannon Building, Suite 100, Dover, Delaware 19904. The Commission will make its decision concerning this matter on the basis of the evidence of record taken at the public evidentiary hearings and will consider the public comments received at the Public Comment Sessions.

Evidentiary hearings are for the purpose of formally receiving evidence from the parties in the case. Only those entities or individuals who have been granted intervenor status will be allowed to present evidence, cross-examine witnesses or otherwise participate in the evidentiary hearings. Members of the public are welcome to attend the evidentiary hearings as observers.

Anyone planning to attend the evidentiary hearings should consult the Commission's website prior to the day of the hearing for cancellations, changes in the date or time or how the evidentiary will be conducted as it relates to each development or town.

IF YOU WISH TO REVIEW DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THIS CASE

You may review pertinent documents related to this case on the Commission's website at <http://depssc.delaware.gov>. You may also review documents during normal business hours in the Commission's Dover office at the address listed above. You may also review copies of the entire file of this matter at the office of the Division of the Public Advocate ("DPA") located at the Carvel State Office Building, 4th Floor, 820 North French Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19801. Please call (302) 577-5077 to arrange for a time to review the documents at that location. If you have a disability and wish to participate in, or to review the materials in these proceedings, please contact the Commission to discuss any auxiliary aids or services which you might need to help you.

If you have questions about this matter, you may call the Commission at 1-800-282-8574 (toll-free in Delaware) or you may call (302) 736-7500 (voice or text telephone). You may also send questions or request information by Internet e-mail addressed to heidi.wagner@state.de.us.